

REMARKS

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 USC §102 (e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,999,538 (hereinafter "Haddock"). Claims 2 and 3 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(a) as being obvious over AAPA in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,493,562, issued to Lo (hereinafter "Lo"). Claim 4 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over AAPA in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,493,562, issued to Lo (hereinafter "Lo"). Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to further clarify the present invention. Claims 5 and 6 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

In response to the above rejection, it is respectfully submitted that the claims recite features neither taught nor suggested by Haddock or in combination with AAPA and Lo. In particular, such features include "...upon detection of the error, stopping the transmission of the error packet to the switch without **waiting for a complete reception of the entire error packet**", as amended in Claim 1. Support for this can be found at least in page 7, lines 6-17.

The present invention discloses that the error detection is performed simultaneously as the packet is transmitted to a switch and that, if an error occurs in a packet, the error packet is not transmitted nor stored in the memory in order to save the overhead. Support for this can be found at least in page 7, lines 11-13.

In contrast, as indicated in the specification of the present invention in page 7, lines 15-16, if an error occurs in the prior art, the controller still receives **the entire error packet** and transmits it to the switch engine. Accordingly, the present invention functions differently than AAPA.

Further, Haddock operates differently than the present invention. Haddock discloses that when a node detects a collision, it continues to transmit for a period of time to ensure all other nodes in the LAN detect the collision (Col. 6, lines 49-52).

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the presently recited "...upon detection of the error, stopping the transmission of the error packet without **waiting for a complete reception of the entire error packet to the switch**, is not anticipated by AAPA.

Claim 2 contains a similar feature as in Claim 1, thus urged patentable for the same reasons.

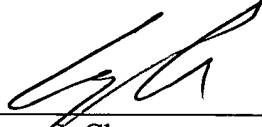
The other claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claim discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the invention of Claims 1-4 are not anticipated nor made obvious by Haddock alone or in combination with AAPA and Lo. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this ground of rejection are respectfully requested.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to kindly telephone the undersigned telephone number listed below. If there are any fees due and owing, please charge Deposit Account No. 502-470.

Respectfully submitted,

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